

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-09

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FMC-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-03 OIC-02 NASA-01 TRSE-00

FRB-03 OMB-01 L-02 H-02 SAJ-01 BIB-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 OES-03 /093 W

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R 281401Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0591

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E.O. LL652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ETEL, IMCO

SUBJECT: IMCO: MARITIME SATELLITE CONFERENCE -  
SITREP 3

1. DURING CONTINUING DEBATE OF PRINCIPLES IN  
PLENARY, DELEGATIONS FAVORING ALTERNATIVE (A) OF  
INVESTMENT SHARES ARTICLE IN POE DRAFT  
(ARTICLE 18) EXCEEDED THOSE FAVORING U.S.  
PREFERENCE (ALTERNATIVE C) BY MARGIN OF 3 TO 1. THOSE  
SUPPORTING ALTERNATIVE (C) WERE NEW ZEALAND,  
LIBERIA, AUSTRALIA AND BRAZIL. CANADA ALSO VOICED  
PROVISIONAL PREFERENCE FOR ALTERNATIVE (C) BUT  
CONSIDERED FURTHER DEBATE WAS NEEDED ON THE ISSUE.  
THERE WAS NO SUPPORT FOR ALTERNATIVE (B).

2. IN COURSE OF DEBATE, AUSTRALIA, THE U.S. AND  
CANADA EACH SUGGESTED THAT INVESTMENT SHARE ISSUE  
COULD BETTER BE LEFT FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT A  
LATER STAGE OF CONFERENCE OR BE REFERRED TO A WORKING  
GROUP OR COMMITTEE FOR MORE DETAILED CONSIDERATION.

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3. AUSTRALIA INSISTED THAT DETAILED STUDY WOULD BE REQUIRED AND THAT FIGURES FOR MEMBERSHIP AND INVESTMENT NEEDED TO BE DETERMINED TO OBTAIN GOVERNMENTS' FINANCIAL APPROVAL BEFORE ANY AGREEMENT COULD BE SIGNED.

4. THE UK POINTED OUT THAT APART FROM THE THREE ALTERNATIVES (A, B AND C), THERE WAS STILL THE ISSUE OF INITIAL INVESTMENT SHARES WHICH THE POE REPORT HAD NOTED REQUIRED STUDY AND QUANTIFICATION.

5. TRANSIT TRAFFIC AND SHIP-TO-SHIP CALL ACCOUNTING WAS DISCUSSED INCONCLUSIVELY. THE U.S. POINTED OUT

THAT ITS VIEWS ON TRANSIT TRAFFIC HAD BEEN PUT BEFORE THE CONFERENCE IN DOCUMENT 5/4 IN DETAIL AND SUGGESTED THIS ISSUE MIGHT BE CONSIDERED BY A SUBSIDIARY BODY OF THE CONFERENCE.

6. THE PRESIDENT, IN SUMMING UP DEBATE, SUGGESTED A VIEW APPEARED TO BE DEVELOPING THAT A WORKING GROUP OR COMMITTEE BE SET UP TO CONSIDER INVESTMENT SHARES. THE USSR REACTED STRONGLY AGAINST THIS SUGGESTION AND PRESSED HARD FOR AN IMMEDIATE VOTE TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE BETWEEN ALTERNATIVES (A) AND (C).

7. AUSTRALIA INTERVENED TO POINT OUT IT CONSIDERED INVESTMENT SHARES ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES BEFORE THE CONFERENCE. ALL MAJOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE WERE AGREED THAT A CONVENTION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL MAJOR MARITIME STATES WAS NEEDED IF THE SYSTEM TO BE ESTABLISHED WERE TO BE VIABLE. THIS WAS AN ISSUE ON WHICH CONSENSUS WAS INDISPENSABLE IF SUCH A BROADLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT WERE TO BE

PRODUCED; THEREFORE, A VOTE WHICH WOULD PRODUCE A DIVISIVE SITUATION WAS UNSATISFACTORY. FURTHER EXAMINATION WAS CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO ACCOMMODATE ALL INTERESTS AND THE ISSUE THEREFORE HAD TO BE SUBMITTED TO A WORKING GROUP OR COMMITTEE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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8. THE AUSTRALIAN STATEMENT AND PROPOSAL FOUND WIDE SUPPORT AMONG DELEGATIONS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE USSR AND BLOC COUNTRIES AND THE VOTE WAS DEFERRED. THE PRESIDENT SUGGESTED DEBATE ON OTHER PRINCIPLES CONTINUE AND FOLLOWING THIS FURTHER DEBATE A DECISION COULD BE TAKEN TO SET UP A WORKING GROUP OR COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE TO

CONSIDER INVESTMENT SHARES AND OTHER PRINCIPLES.  
THIS WAS AGREED.

9. THE NEXT ISSUE DEBATED WAS PROCUREMENT (ARTICLE 28  
OF THE POE DRAFT). THE U.S. PROPOSALS ON THIS  
INCLUDED IN CONFERENCE DOCUMENT 5/4 AND THAT OF

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CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FMC-01 INR-07

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EUROSPACE IN DOCUMENT 5/2 WERE ALSO CONSIDERED.

10. IN OPENING DISCUSSION THIS ITEM, THE U.S.  
REVIEWED ITS POSITION THAT ALTERNATIVE (B) OF THE  
POE DRAFT ARTICLE 28 PROVIDED THE MOST EFFICIENT  
AND LEAST COSTLY METHOD OF PROCUREMENT FOR THE SYSTEM.

11. THE UK EXPLAINED THAT IN DRAFTING THE LANGUAGE  
OF ALTERNATIVE (A) IT HAD IN MIND THE PREVENTION OF  
A SITUATION ON WHICH A SINGLE SUPPLIER BECAUSE OF ITS

POSITION IN THE MARKET MIGHT PRE-EMPT OTHERS FROM  
EVER HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE FOR SUPPLY  
CONTRACTS THUS LEADING TO A MONOPOLY SUPPLY SITUATION  
WHICH COULD EVENTUALLY RESULT IN HIGHER COSTS FOR  
THE SYSTEM. THE UK CAUTIONED THAT LONG TERM BENEFITS  
WHICH WOULD RESULT FROM THE ADOPTION OF ALTERNATIVE (A)  
SHOULD NOT BE FOREGONE TO AVOID SHORT TERM PROBLEMS  
WHICH MIGHT RESULT FROM THE "WORLD-WIDE" COMPETITION  
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LANGUAGE OF THAT ALTERNATIVE.

12. FRENCH, WHILE MAINTAINING SUPPORT FOR  
PROCUREMENT IN ALTERNATIVE (A), SUGGESTED THAT FORMULA  
OTHER THAN ALTERNATIVE (A) AND (B) MIGHT BE FOUND.  
COMMENT: FRENCH OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO INTELSAT  
FORMULA. END COMMENT. U.S. MAINTAINED SUPPORT FOR  
ALTERNATIVE (B), BUT NOTED GRATIFICATION AT  
CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE OF FRANCE. USSR EXPRESSED  
FIRM SUPPORT FOR ALTERNATIVE (A) AND NOTED THIS  
PROVISION, WHICH GIVES COUNCIL DISCRETIONARY POWER IN  
AWARDING CONTRACTS, IS FULLY IN LINE WITH U.S. VIEWS  
ON STRONG COUNCIL. BOTH NIGERIA AND SWEDEN  
QUESTIONED ALTERNATIVE (A), ESPECIALLY IN  
THAT IT DIFFERED FROM INTELSAT LANGUAGE. NIGERIA  
SUPPORTED INTELSAT PROVISION ASSERTING IT HAD BEEN  
IN USE FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND IT WORKED. AFTER  
BELGIUM AND DENMARK SUPPORTED ALTERNATIVE (A),  
PRESIDENT DECLARED GENERAL DEBATE ON THIS QUESTION  
CLOSED AND NOTED THAT MATTER WOULD BE REFERRED TO  
COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER ACTION.

13. DISCUSSION THEN TURNED TO QUESTION OF  
RESPECTIVE ROLES OF ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL. VIRTUALLY  
ALL DELEGATIONS WHICH SPOKE - SWEDEN, UK, USSR, FRANCE,  
CUBA, GDR, AND INDIA - OPPOSED U.S. VIEW THAT  
COUNCIL SHOULD HAVE PRIMARY AUTHORITY AND SUPPORTED  
POSITION THAT ASSEMBLY SHOULD BE SUPREME BODY OF  
ORGANIZATION. JAPAN ALSO AGREED THAT ASSEMBLY  
SHOULD BE PRINCIPAL ORGAN, BUT SUGGESTED THAT COUNCIL  
SHOULD HAVE FULL OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND THAT  
ASSEMBLY ACTION SHOULD BE CONFINED TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
MATTERS. U.S. EXPLAINED PROPOSAL BY ASSERTING THAT,  
AS SYSTEM WOULD INVOLVE INVESTMENT OF HUNDREDS OF  
MILLIONS OF DOLLARS, INVESTORS IN SYSTEM, AS  
REPRESENTED THROUGH WEIGHTED VOTING BY DESIGNATED  
ENTITIES IN COUNCIL, SHOULD HAVE FINAL SAY ON HOW  
THESE SUMS ARE TO BE SPENT RATHER THAN ASSEMBLY  
WHERE CONSIDERATIONS OTHER THAN EFFICIENCY OF  
SYSTEM COULD ARISE. U.S. NOTED THAT GROUPS OF

SMALL INVESTORS COULD BE REPRESENTED ON COUNCIL  
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(AS IN INTELSAT) AND THAT, IN U.S. PROPOSAL, ASSEMBLY  
WOULD NOT BE MERE FIGUREHEAD. NONETHELESS, NO  
DELEGATION SUPPORTED U.S. VIEW.

14. AFTER CONCLUSION OF GENERAL DEBATE ON COUNCIL/  
ASSEMBLY RELATIONSHIP, NORWAY RAISED QUESTION OF  
PERMISSION FOR SHIP OPERATORS TO USE SATELLITE  
SYSTEM AT PORTS AND IN TERRITORIAL WATERS, WHICH  
A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES DO NOT NOW PERMIT. NORWAY  
REQUESTED CONFERENCE APPROVE RESOLUTION ASKING  
ALL COUNTRIES TO PERMIT THIS. NORWAY WAS SUPPORTED  
BY U.S., BELGIUM, UK AND DENMARK; NETHERLANDS AND  
SWEDEN WOULD SUPPORT INsofar AS SUCH TRANSMISSIONS  
DID NOT INTERFERE WITH LOCAL TRANSMISSIONS.  
FOLLOWING MEMBERS SAID THEY DO NOT PERMIT  
TRANSMISSIONS FROM PORTS OR TERRITORIAL WATERS BUT  
SAID THEY WOULD DO SO OR TRY TO DO SO IF ALL OTHER  
COUNTRIES DID PERMIT SUCH TRANSMISSION: GREECE,  
USSR, FRANCE AND PERU. CUBA WONDERED WHY 1974

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MARITIME WARC HAD VOTED THIS DOWN. PRESIDENT, WHO WAS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE AT WARC WHICH CONSIDERED THIS MATTER, EXPLAINED THAT IN WARC SUCH TRANSMISSIONS WERE CONSIDERED IN TERMS OF TERRESTRIAL, NOT SATELLITE, COMMUNICATIONS. AT END OF DEBATE THIS ITEM, IT WAS DECIDED TO ESTABLISH WORKING GROUP CONSISTING OF U.S., UK, AUSTRALIA, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, GREECE, SWEDEN, ARGENTINA, CUBA, ITALY AND ICS OBSERVER TO DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THIS MATTER. NORWAY WILL CHAIR.

15. AT CONCLUSION OF GENERAL DEBATE, PLENARY DECIDED TO ESTABLISH TWO COMMITTEES OF WHOLE TO MEET APRIL 28 AND 29. COMMITTEE I, TO BE CHAIRED BY CANADA, WILL CONSIDER QUESTIONS OF ROLE OF DESIGNATED ENTITY AND RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS AND ENTITIES. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THIS COMMITTEE RESTRICT DISCUSSION TO THESE SUBJECTS  
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BUT QUESTIONS BY IMPLICATION TOUCH ON ASSEMBLY/COUNCIL

RELATIONSHIP. COMMITTEE II WILL CONSIDER QUESTIONS OF INVESTMENT SHARES AND PROCUREMENT; CHAIRMAN WILL BE ELECTED AT FIRST SESSION. BOTH COMMITTEES WERE ASKED TO COMPLETE REPORTS BY EVENING OF APRIL 28. PLENARY SCHEDULED TO RESUME TO CONSIDER COMMITTEE REPORTS ON APRIL 29.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MARITIME MEETINGS, COMMUNICATION SATELLITES, MEETING VOTING RECORDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** WorrelSW  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750148-0465  
**From:** LONDON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750412/aaaaakqk.tel  
**Line Count:** 322  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION IO  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 6  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** WorrelSW  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by WorrelSW>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** IMCO: MARITIME SATELLITE CONFERENCE - SITREP 3  
**TAGS:** OCON, ETEL, IMCO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006